

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
DPW Conference Room
198 Sportsman's Road, Ludlow, MA 01056

MEETING MINUTES

August 25, 2020

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

2020 SEP 29 A 8:44

TOWN OF LUDLOW

***Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A Section 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Ludlow Board of Public Works will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible.**

Members Present: Steve Santos, John Davis, Barry Linton, Alex Simao, Dan Soares

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Mike Suprenant, Ken Batista, Amy Priest

Mr. Santos called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: #995 Letter from Robert Hill requesting that Hill Top Terrace be repaved. Mr. Santos asked for letter to be sent to resident to let him know we will look into it for 2021 paving season. #996 The Board of Selectmen opened the warrant for the October 5, 2020 Special Town Meeting. Articles are due August 27, 2020.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Board discussed submitting an article for October Special Town Meeting relative to snow removal on safety sidewalks. Draft article and background information is attached. It would change Chapter 4, Sections 8 & 17 relative to snow removal on said sidewalks in Town. **Mr. Simao motion to send article to Special Town Meeting to amend Town Bylaws regarding snow removal on safety sidewalks. Mr. Soares second. All in favor. Mr. Soares motion to take article about eliminating P.E. to job requirement for Director of Public Works to Special Town Meeting (sections 27 & 34 in their entirety). Mr. Simao second. All in favor.** Mike Almeida resigned. He recommends the Board send a letter thanking him for his years of service. **Mr. Simao motion to send letter to him thanking him for his years of service and wishing him luck in his endeavors. Mr. Linton second. All in favor. Mr. Soares motion to file his resignation letter. Mr. Linton said to read it and then file it. Mr. Suprenant read letter. Mr. Linton motion to file letter. Mr. Simao second. All in favor.** A performance evaluation was done on Anthony Fernandes. Mr. Suprenant recommends he be

promoted from PW-2 to PW-3 effective 8/26/2020. **Mr. Linton motion to give PW-3 position to Anthony Fernandes. Mr. Simao second. Mr. Simao motion to give him PW-3 position minimum step. Mr. Davis second. All in favor.** We are in the processing of posting PW-4 internally and PW-2 externally. **Mr. Simao motion to post PW-4 internally and PW-2 externally. Mr. Davis second. All in favor. Mr. Simao motion to accept Director's report. Mr. Davis second. All in favor.**

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OPERATION SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Internal PW-3 recommendation previously discussed. He met with Lawn Tech last Friday @ Nick Silva Field. It is his recommendation to do some over seeding and core aerate the whole field for \$1,650. Our crew will strip out the center of the field and put some fresh loam down. Mrs. Priest will double check to see if the article is closed out or not. DPW mechanic is in the process of completing the necessary repairs to all winter equipment and snow plows. We got a price to sandblast a frame and we are in the process of getting 2 other prices. We are still cleaning up after storm damage. We hired an annual bid contractor after Eversource came in and cut everything off of the wires. Both tree guys were on vacation last week. It may benefit us to at some point get a bigger chipper. Mr. Santos asked to find out how much this storm cost us. Budget expended for Randall Road is \$76,645.75 that includes major milling of the road, minor milling, level course, emulsion and structure adjustment and rebuilding. Also, there was a decrease in pavement escalation. We got \$1,507 back for the black top. The cost for the remainder of the work is \$71,086.50 coming out of Chapter 90. There was an increase in the shim because the road was in worse shape than we anticipated. Palmer scheduled to put the top on Thursday. Board is in favor of continuing with the fog line. **Mr. Simao motion to accept Operation Supervisor's report as read. Mr. Soares second. All in favor.**

OLD BUSINESS: Riverwalk trash collection has no issues. Mr. Suprenant has not had a chance to get a Center Street punch list. The crosswalk beeping at Haviland Pond has been fixed. Regrade & hydroseed Nick Silva Field has been previously discussed. Uniforms are being silk screened. Internal applicant for PW-3 position previously discussed. Meeting for negotiations for Local 98 contract has been postponed. Mr. Suprenant will look for the complaint from the tax payer regarding Electric Park drainage problem. No update on the replacement of slide at Electric Park. No update on Island Pond Cemetery foundations. Disposal of surplus property was sent to Selectmen. Mr. Suprenant will follow up on transferring the backhoe attachment to the Golf Course. 2021 pavement management program previously discussed. A second vendor is working on a quote for updating the work order system. Mr. Suprenant will ask our IT

Department about any local vendors. The Town Administrator will set up a meeting with the Collector and Kim Collins and Board of Public Works to discuss the trash fee implementation. Mr. Santos will keep the Board informed. Special Town Meeting articles previously discussed. Mr. Simao asked for update on Focosi Lane. Mr. Suprenant said the Building Commissioner is in charge of the cease and desist order. Mr. Santos read email to Building Inspector dated August 9. Mr. Suprenant left message with reservoir about opening the gate to the new parking lot. **Mr. Simao motion to open the gate. Mr. Soares second. Mr. Simao asked for the info to be on the Board of Selectmen Friday night call. All in favor.** Board confirmed rates for the new trash program are \$75 for seniors 65 and older, \$100 for the rest of the residents, up to a 3 family. Condos will be assessed based on if all units are paid for. Sewer repair on Newbury Street is being done tomorrow. Mr. Simao said a resident on Lockland Street has some issues. Mr. Batista said we will be doing that ourselves. Mr. Suprenant said he notified Columbia Gas about paving on moratorium roads. Mr. Suprenant has not had a chance to contact someone at MWRA about irrigation at the new cemetery. Mr. Batista got the well report. Mr. Suprenant will have cemetery plans for the next meeting. Right of entry form is ready for Mr. Kopec to sign. Mr. Suprenant will change the wording from the curb to stone.

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NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Simao asked about trees on Piney Lane. Mr. Batista said we only own first 500', which we cleaned up. He will take a look again. Mr. Linton asked about stump on Mero Street. Mr. Batista said they will be back to re-grind.

At 5:44 P.M. Mr. Soares motion adjourn until 7:00 p.m. Mr. Simao second. Board to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Mass General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21; to discuss disciplinary action against Michael Suprenant, Director of Public Works. The Board will not return to open session. All in favor.

NOTES ACCEPTED:





Clerk